

The restrictions of the Act of 1729 have been cited as one of the many causative factors in the American Revolution.¹² In 1760, following a change in the population of Nova Scotia and in anticipation of an increase in the number of settlers from New England, Governor Charles Lawrence found it necessary to issue a proclamation restating the terms of the Act of 1729. The Act remained in effect until 1811 and the restrictions were written into land grants issued to Loyalists and disbanded soldiers in the 1780s.¹³ A typical land grant read in part "...Three thousand nine hundred and thirty acres, according to the annexed Plan...together with all Woods, Underwoods, Timber and Timber Trees...SAVING and reserving NEVERTHELESS...all white Pine Trees if any shall be found growing thereon....".¹⁴

In New England, the position of Surveyor General of the King's Woods was first filled in 1685 and continued with various appointees until the naming of John Wentworth to that post in 1766, when he was also appointed governor of New Hampshire. Wentworth continued in both positions until 1775. A Loyalist, he eventually fled to England and in 1783 was appointed Surveyor General of the King's Woods for Nova Scotia. In 1784, he named Benjamin Marston as his deputy in New Brunswick.

Except for the years 1705 to 1718, the job of Surveyor General of the King's Woods in New England had been a part-time occupation, the post being combined at various times with the duties of a customs officer, a timber merchant, a governorship or even with duties which kept the incumbent continuously occupied in England. In Nova Scotia, with Wentworth's appointment in 1783, the position became a full-time one. The Surveyor General, with the help of his deputies, surveyed the King's woods in the areas under his jurisdiction and marked standing white pine trees, selected for masts, with the "Broad Arrow," the

12 Albion, *Forests and Sea Power*, pp. 251-266.

13 RG1, Vol. 165, p. 28, PANS. The details of the numerous acts passed to ensure a timber supply for the British Navy, the appointments and changing duties of successive Surveyors General of the King's Woods and their achievements and failures in carrying out and enforcing the "Broad Arrow policy" are thoroughly discussed elsewhere. See Albion, *Forests and Sea Power*, particularly Chap. VI, pp. 231-280; also Joseph J. Malone, *Pine Trees and Politics: The Naval Stores and Forest Policy in Colonial New England, 1691-1775* (Seattle, 1964). For a discussion of the masting trade, with the only known illustrations of this trade, see Samuel F. Manning *New England Masts and the King's Broad Arrow* (Kennebunk, Maine, 1979).

Stuart Trueman, *An Intimate History of New Brunswick* (Toronto, 1970), p. 120.

14 Land grant to John Robertson and 21 others, Queens County, 1786. RG20, Series A, Vol. 18, PANS.